

Six set out for OFSAA attempt

Six local track and field athletes will face the toughest high school competition in the province today as the Ontario Federation of School Athletic Associations championships gets underway at Centennial Stadium in Etobicoke.

Paul Cox, Patti Cox, Owen Quilty and Lisa Cadeau of St. Theresa's High School will make the trip to Toronto along with Midland Secondary School's Peter Zeitel and Kim Spicer of Ecole Secondaire Penetanguishene Secondary School.

The six earned a spot in the Ontario championships with fifth-or-better finishes in last week's provincial regionals at McMaster University in Hamilton.

Paul Cox earned a berth by finishing in a three-way tie for first in the Senior boys' high jump and his sister, Patti, will be there after a third-place finish in the senior girls' 400 metre hurdles.

Quilty, competing in his first year in the Junior division, scored a fourth-place finish in the triple jump at the regionals.

Those three have been to the OFSAA finals before, but it'll be a new experience for Cadeau, who made it with a fourth-place standing in the Senior girls' shot put.

MSS rep Zeitel qualified with a stunning second-place finish in the regional Junior boys' javelin competition and Spicer came up with third place in the Senior boys' pole vault.

The local schools are all members of the Georgian Bay Secondary Schools Athletic Association, host of the event. Several Midland Secondary School coaches and officials will also join the six local participants in Etobicoke to serve as general officials and supervisors of the javelin events.



Fancy footwork

Dennis Moreau of Midland Indusmin came up with several fancy plays during his club's Wednesday encounter with Barrie American Hotel, but the Midland squad were eventually out-fancied by

the visitors as Indusmin suffered a 4-1 loss in the Barrie and District Recreational Soccer League matchup at Midland Secondary School. It was Indusmin's first loss of the season.

Indusmin stopped

It's nice to imagine that you're going to win every time you step onto the field. Trouble is, most teams don't. And Midland Indusmin won't.

The club was fed its first dose of reality Wednesday at Midland Secondary School when it suffered a 4-1 loss to Barrie American Hotel, the first defeat for the Midland club in three tests.

"We were a bit

downhearted," said coach Malcolm Lonsdale after the game, toning down from his half-time feeling that Indusmin would settle the scoreless situation which existed at that point and win the game.

Lonsdale's feeling was based on the viewers' impression that Indusmin forced much of the play in the first half. Both sides had their chances -- the best coming from the

Barrie club which belted the ball off both posts in a tangle in front of the net near the end of the half -- but Midland seemed to have things pretty much in control the rest of the time.

They still had the touch as the second half opened, and team captain Rod Billinness scored early on a penalty kick ("though I really don't think it was a penalty, myself," said Lonsdale) to give

Midland the lead.

But Barrie then began a charge which a tiring Indusmin squad simply couldn't withstand. The game turned completely around and Barrie had almost total control. Several bad plays later, it was 4-1.

"Our team got tired," said Lonsdale, adding that the club had taken on five new players for the game -- some of whom had little or no soccer experience -- and, in the spirit of the recreational nature of the league, everybody was played. American Hotel, which carries three Barrie City club players on its roster, took advantage of the situation.

Dave Downs was the Midland goaltender who took the Barrie assault while facing the blinding sun in the second half. Mark Crofts was selected Indusmin player of the game.

Next outing for Indusmin is next Wednesday in Barrie against new league entry Hellas.

MSS gals 3rd

Suffer first season loss

When you consider there are almost 50 schools in the Georgian Bay Secondary School Athletic Association, third place can't be hard to take.

But Roger Bell, coach of the Midland Secondary School Girls' soccer team, knows that but for one game, third place might have seemed a long way down the list.

That game was against defending GBSSA champion Markham Secondary School, and it came in the first of two clashes at last Tuesday's GBSSA championships in Aurora.

It was a 3-0 loss for the MSS gals, their first loss in eight outings this season. It deposited them into the consolation championship, for which they composed themselves to win 3-1 over Gravenhurst Secondary School, but the fact of the loss still lingers with the players and with Bell, who maintains "we could have beaten them."

"They (Markham) are a very good team, and the fact that they won it last year I think slightly intimidated our team to begin with," said Bell.

Then there was the fact that the MSS squad arrived and began warmup practices at about 10 a.m., expecting a 10:30 start, and then the news came that Markham's bus had broken down and the game didn't start until 11.

"That was kind of a letdown," said Bell. "We were ready, then we had to wait. It sort of compounded things. Their spirits were down to begin with."

By 11:20, Markham had trampled -- the Midland girls' spirits right into the turf by piling up three goals. MSS fought back bravely, but Markham's championship repertoire included the time-tested team skill of artfully protecting a solid lead.

Midland still had a game to go, though, and after the opening defeat, it was going to be a test.

But team captain Tracey Shaw broke the ice with a first-half goal from Mary Russell and MSS were on their way to the consolation title.

Gravenhurst battled back with a goal less than a minute after the whistle to start the second half, but replacement goaltender Angie Pumputis (who came in for Marlene Anos, injured early in the second game) withstood the attack and Russell put it away with two goals to settle the issue.

Russell, who was in a scoring slump but "played her best game of the season" against Gravenhurst according to her coach, headed in her first goal and took a neat pass from Shaw for the second.

The win gave MSS a six-win, one-loss, two-tie record for the season.

Bell says the club, which will lose only four players on graduation, is stronger than last year's team which was beaten out at the zone level. It was proven, he says, in that second game Tuesday.

"They showed a lot of guts," Bell said, "to come right back off their first loss of the year the way they did."

Trying for .500

The Midland Juniors Baseball team will try to bring its South Simcoe Baseball League record to .500 tonight when they take on Beeton for the second time this season in a 6:45 p.m. encounter at Tiffin Park.

In their first matchup, the first game of the season for the new Midland entry, the Juniors walloped Beeton 8-1 in the south Simcoe County town.

Sunday, the Juniors will have a chance to move into the winning-record ranks when they face Collingwood in a Tiffin Park doubleheader. First game Sunday begins at 2 p.m.

Port wins final

Down Castex 26-10 for Area 3 title

Port McNicoll Public School hammered Monsignor Castex School of Midland 26-10 to win the Area 3 Elementary school Girls' Softball championship Wednesday in Penetanguishene.

Ten teams took part in the one-day event played at Burkevale and Corpus Christi Schools and McGuire Park.

The Area 3 Boys' championship was slated to be played today. If rained out, it'll go Monday.

Consolation champion in Wednesday's competition was Regent School of Midland, which scored a 31-21 win over Our Lady of Lourdes

(Elmvale) in the final.

Port McNicoll reached the championship by bumping off Perkinsfield's Ecole Des Saintes Martyrs Canadiens 23-12 in second-round play and Burkevale 19-8 in the opening round.

Other first-round scores were Corpus Christi 11, Huron Park 7; Ecole Des Saintes Martyrs Canadiens 22, Our Lady of Lourdes 6; Parkview 25, Bayview 12; Monsignor Castex 15, Regent 8.

Other second-round scores were Our Lady of Lourdes 11, Burkevale 7; Monsignor Castex 10, Parkview 9; Regent 14, Bayview 13.

Autos lose

Midland Autos goaltender Richard Shoemith faced a relentless Barrie Simcoe Block assault as the Autos were dropped 7-0 in Barrie and District Recreational Soccer League action Wednesday in Barrie.

It was the third loss of the season in as many games for the Autos, but the club's outlook is bound to improve: their three losses have been against three of the league's strongest clubs, Simcoe, Midland Indusmin and Barrie American Hotel.

Gunther Schmidt was selected the Autos player of the game.